



# BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 20.19 Thursday, May 8, 2014

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

## Court Watching:

### Judge Van Houten sets White's trial to begin Nov. 3

By Diane Madigan  
 Independent Court Reporter

Last week, disbarred Belleville attorney Thomas A. White, 46, appeared twice in Wayne County Circuit Court in Detroit in connection with two criminal cases, totaling 20 felony charges.

When it was over, he ended up with a new judge to handle his cases and a trial date of Nov. 3.

On Wednesday, April 30, White appeared with his attorney Volha Yermalenka in Judge James R. Chylinski's courtroom for a disposition conference.

Yermalenka, who was standing in for attorney Michael Vincent, passed the Michigan Bar in October and was licensed with the State of Michigan Bar Association in November.

Seated at the prosecutor's table, Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Daniel Williams quietly asked Yermalenka to tell him what she wanted. While Yermalenka spoke, Williams kept shaking his head "No."

Williams and Yermalenka followed Judge Chylinski into his chambers for a private conference. When the parties returned, Judge Chylinski said there was a lot to work on.

"We will blind draw this to a trial judge and give this case a home," he said and then drew for a judge.

A calendar conference was scheduled for May 2 with Judge Margaret Van Houten.

At White's calendar conference on Friday, Yermalenka again stood in for Michael Vincent as White's attorney.

On the way to the bench for a discussion, Assistant Prosecutor Williams told Judge Van Houten, "We need a long time. This is a Criminal Enterprise."

After a 20-minute conference, Judge Van

(continued on page 15)



Photo courtesy Wayne Worosz

On May 1 a barge with a crane from Diversified Docks started placing new docks in the water at Bayshore in Van Buren Township. Before long, a VBT Ordinance Officer arrived, determined they did not have the proper permit, and shut down the work. Van Buren Township Director of Planning and Economic Development Arthur Mullen said they will not be permitted to install any docks into the water until after May 21 when he expects the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to approve their request for 48 docks and 96 lifts. The FERC public comment period continues until May 21 on line. Bayshore does have a permit for new decks and shoreline improvements, Mullen said, adding Bayshore may figure out a way to do temporary docks. Twenty-two docks had been removed but they were not allowed to be replaced until after MDEQ and FERC reviewed the process. Those residents were without docks last summer and hoped to have them in this summer.

### Richard Convertino to represent fired VBT Fire Capt. Karver

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
 Independent Editor

On March 10, Van Buren Township Fire Department Captain and township Fire Inspector Anthony Karver was fired and now is at the end of his appeals process.

On Monday, Plymouth attorney Richard Convertino said he is representing Karver.

"For 23 years he served the people of Van Buren Township admirably," Convertino said of Karver, 42. "His dedication to duty is peerless."

"He was summarily dismissed with no notice under the pretext of not passing an exam," Convertino said. "If this isn't resolved soon, we are looking at moving forward," he said.

"Anthony Karver was an excellent employee in his captain's chair doing captain's work. He needs to be back in his chair doing his work for the citizens of Van Buren Township," said Convertino.

Karver has been directed not to speak to

the media at this point.

On Tuesday, VBT Supervisor Linda Combs said Karver's issue came to her desk and she gave it to the township attorney. She said the township attorney is still negotiating with the union.

"I would tell you something if I could," Supervisor Combs told the *Independent*.

Convertino, now in private practice, is a former federal prosecutor and the lead Assistant U.S. Attorney in the "Detroit Sleeper Cell" prosecutions. A two-part series on Convertino was broadcast by National Public Radio in 2008.

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# SECOND FRONT PAGE

## Six statues to be erected in Belleville's downtown on May 16

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

The six outdoor sculptures leased for a year by the Belleville Downtown Development Authority will be erected throughout the downtown area on Friday, May 16.

At the April 16 meeting of the DDA, Coordinator Carol Thompson said she got word from the Midwest Sculpture Initiative that they will park in the Liberty Street parking lot and put up all the statues in one day.

Thompson said since the construction on the upgrades to Horizon Park will take place this summer, they will be sure to put up the sculpture for Horizon Park way down by the gazebo so it doesn't get run over by a bulldozer.

The sculptures are being leased to the city for about \$11,000. The DDA approved \$5,000 for the project and Thompson got public donations for the rest.

The annual Belleville Beautification Project, to clean up the shores of Belleville Lake and the downtown area, has been set for Saturday, May 17.

The project, which started with the BYC cleaning up the shoreline, grew into a cooperative effort with the DDA and the City of Belleville joining in to clean up the whole downtown.

In other business at the 35-minute, April 16 meeting, the DDA:

- Accepted the low bid of Davenport Brothers Construction of Belleville for installation of three poles in the grass in the Five Points area to hold some of the Wayfinding Signs. Davenport's bid actually was \$10 more at \$2,950 than Graph-X of Plymouth's bid of \$2,940, but when the preference for city vendors (6%) was figured into the total that gave Davenport the edge. Bids also came from Blue Ribbon Contracting of Van Buren

Township at \$4,200 and Terraforma of Ypsilanti at \$3,950. The signs will be put on those poles and others along Main Street by the sign fabricator, Graph-X;

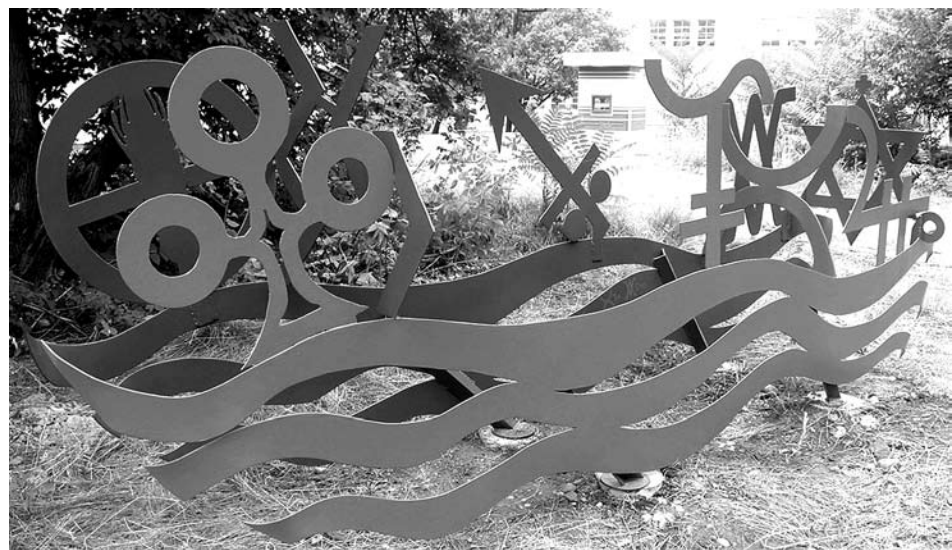
- Discussed the proposal to put up a crosswalk sign in the middle of Main Street at the Fourth Street crosswalk, to alert drivers to pedestrians. City Councilman Tom Fielder, a former DDA member, has been working out the details for the crossing sign and has discussed it with the city council. He told the council he would ask the DDA for money to pay for it. Interim Police Chief Hal Berriman sat at that crossing to look it over and told Fielder that he felt they needed to take out one parking space in front of the Bayou in order to give enough safe turning radius for drivers turning north from Fourth Street. Spicer engineer Dave Vallier volunteered to do a turn-radius gauging on the streetscape plans that would take him just five minutes. The crosswalk sign is expected to cost about \$370;

- Approved renewing a joint advertisement with Van Buren Township DDA in the Metro Detroit ASource. The price is the same as 2013, \$1,900, with Belleville's share being \$950;

- Approved joining the Metro Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau at an annual cost of \$225 for promoting events to a larger market. The promotional idea came from the Boo'Ville Steering Committee asking that both Belleville and VBT DDAs join the bureau. There was some discussion at the Boo'Ville meeting about whether Belleville and VBT could join together under the "Belleville" mailing address;

- Passed a motion asking VBT DDA to consider the Halloween / Harvest decorating in the city up into VBT for the Boo'Ville activities throughout October;

- Heard engineer Vallier report that the



"Ghost Laker" by Artist Laila Voss is one of the sculptures that will be installed in the Belleville Downtown Development Authority's outdoor sculpture exhibit. DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson said the Belleville DDA is delighted to be working with the Midwest Sculpture Initiative and is most grateful for the support of the Belleville Public Art Partners: Antiques on Main, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, Belleville Central Business Community, Belleville Tax and Accounting, Blue Ribbon Contracting, clearzoning, Davenport Brothers Construction, Hennessey Engineers, Inc., Higgerson Neal Funeral Home, Mainstreet Computers, Inc., Barbara Rogalle Miller, Plante Moran, Spicer Group, Inc., and Terraforma, Inc.

permit application was completed and taken to VBT and then to the DNR for the upgrades to Horizon Park. He said VBT wanted a few changes, which were made. Once it is permitted it will be submitted and once the DDA hears from the DNR Trust Fund, he expects the bid letting to be in June;

- Approved \$160,567.47 in accounts payable for April, which includes a bond payment of \$148,352.07; and

- Heard Mayor Kerreen Conley, who sits on the DDA, ask if she missed something when she was absent from a meeting. She asked if the DDA has made any commitments "to spend money for the

library they are taking over the bridge." DDA chairman John Hoops said the DDA never committed to anything for the library. He said the only thing the Belleville DDA did was pass a resolution that said it wanted to keep the library in the city. "I just wanted to make sure we didn't do anything," Mayor Conley said. At the Belleville Area District Library board meetings there have been comments about the Belleville and VBT DDAs using their funds to provide amenities for the library, including a fence along the Belleville Bridge sidewalk to protect pedestrians from traffic.

## District Library Board approves DNR land transaction agreement

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

At a special meeting on May 1, the Belleville Area District Library Board unanimously approved the Department of Natural Resources' Land Transaction Agreement aimed at getting a site nailed down for the proposed new library.

The meeting was 51 minutes long, but only 21 minutes of that was in public session. The first thing the board did when it opened its meeting was to go into a half-hour closed-door session with attorney John Day and architect Dan Whisler.

The official reason for the closed-door session was to "Discuss Attorney/Client Correspondence."

About a dozen members of the audience

sat on little chairs in the children's library area outside the meeting room waiting for the board to reopen its door to the public.

The three-page Land Transaction Agreement stated the Belleville Area District Library would purchase the 3.019 acres of DNR property for \$395,000 and then "gift" a grant of easement in two areas along the lake to the DNR to ensure the long-term conservation of the property and shoreline for "public outdoor recreation in perpetuity."

At least one-third of the water frontage must be fishable by the general public.

The gift of the easement to the DNR also would be "to develop structures, trails, improvements and other amenities and facilitate use of the site and shoreline

for public water access, fishing and other passive outdoor recreation activities."

It also will be used "To construct and maintain fishing piers, platforms and trails as needed to ensure sound, safe public access to the easement area."

The legal description for the land to be "gifted" to the DNR was not attached to the document.

A letter dated April 15 from Ron Corbett, DNR Real Estate Services, said the Land Transaction Agreement was necessary to move this transaction forward to completion.

He said it indicates the applicant will move forward with the terms and conditions of the agreement as stated.

Corbett said once he receives the signed

agreement he will move to put a Director's memorandum on the agenda for the next available meeting of the Natural Resources Commission.

At that meeting public comment will be heard. Then, should Director Keith Creagh approve the transaction and sign the memorandum, a copy will be mailed to the district library within 10 business days.

"Together the Land Transaction Agreement (with the applicant's signatures) and the Director's Memorandum (with the Director's signature) constitute the 'green light' needed to consummate the transaction in detail," Corbett wrote.

When a member of the audience asked the board when the item will be put on the

(continued on page 18)



# OPINIONS

## Editorial

### Library Board didn't want you to speak in Lansing

The Belleville Area District Library Board held a special meeting on May 1 to approve a Land Transaction Agreement, the next step in its march to get the DNR to turn over the lakeside site it wants for its new library.

A letter from the DNR Real Estates Services man, dated April 15, said once he gets the agreement, he'll put it on the agenda of the next DNR Commission meeting for a public hearing.

On May 1, when asked when that might be, Library Board President Mary Jane Dawson said that would be May 8. She already knew when it would be, but didn't bother to tell the public in her district that they could give their views at a DNR public hearing on this local property.

"It's not our meeting!" Dawson stated.

But it is a meeting seeking public input on the site here that is causing some turmoil. She apparently didn't want the public to know about the public hearing, for fear someone would say something against it that would give the DNR pause.

There is reason to believe that she had received the April 15 letter by the April 22 library board meeting in Sumpter Township and could have announced it then, giving people time to make plans to go to Lansing for the hearing.

Today is May 8 and it's kind of late to plan a trip to Lansing if you just found out about this. But, one concerned man was able to take the day off from work today to go to speak to the DNR. Stay tuned.

## EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

Last week I wrote an editorial about choosing between birds and development, because I thought the new Van Buren Township detention pond being planned was going to be on a protected parcel donated for birds.

Well, it turns out the VBT DDA wants to use the Heritage Oaks Nature Preserve as an entrance to a parcel they hope to buy next door. The project will require a roadway through the protected parcel to get to the pond for construction and maintenance and also approval of a big pipe bringing water from the Belleville Road businesses on the west side of the nature preserve to the pond on the east side.

All this is to say the pond will not be on the nature preserve site, but they will need to cut through it some. Sorry for the confusion.

\*\*\*

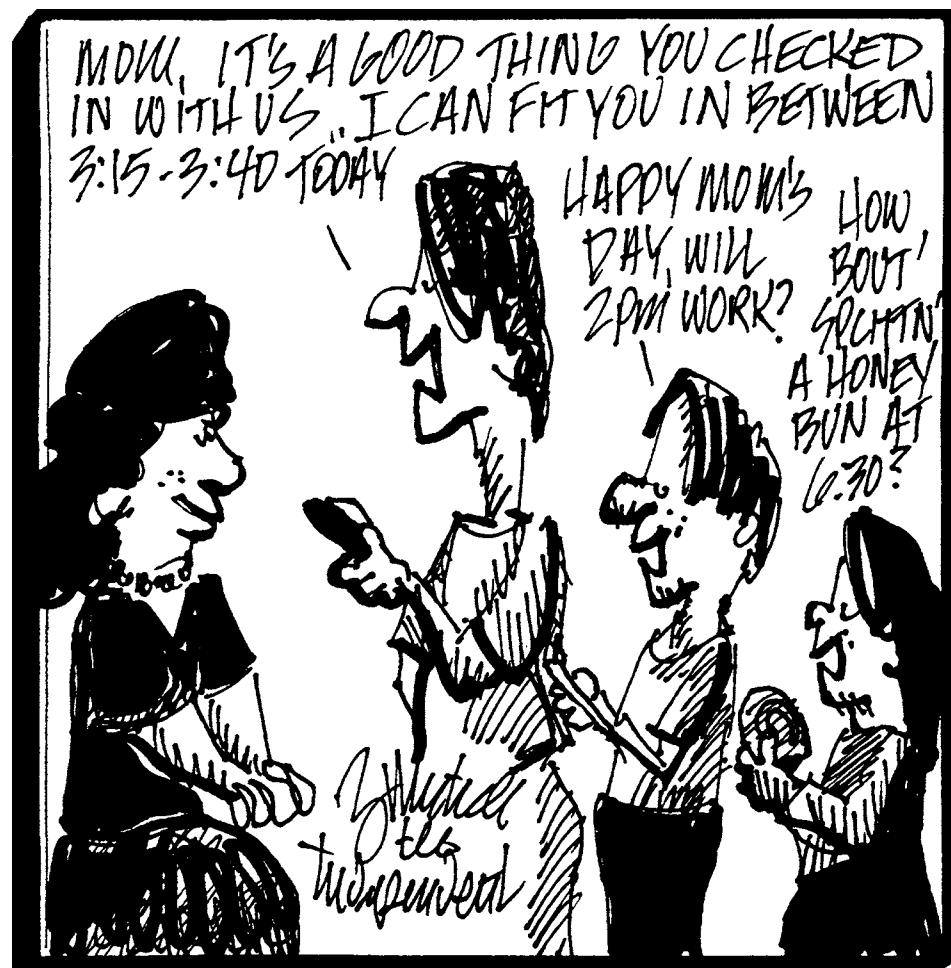
I received an email from a reader saying she saw the announcement of commencement ceremonies on the electronic sign outside BHS. Graduation is going to be at EMU again.

"The new high school should've been designed and built with those events in mind," she wrote.

"And, how about the auditorium?" she continued in a follow-up email. "I don't understand why Belleville thinks off-site ceremonies are necessary now.

"But, I do remember my daughter's 1991 Belleville High School graduation was on a hot, stormy evening at Crisler Arena in Ann Arbor. That year the reason was 'no room' - which seemed true since even the lunchroom was too small.

"My daughter ate lunch in the hallway



until Louise Williamson realized the situation and allowed her students to eat in the choir room.

"So, I guess Belleville's gone off-site for 23 years or more? Does anyone remember the last time BHS held graduation at the high school?"

The senior prom is being held at the Roostertail in downtown Detroit. Does anyone remember the last senior prom held at BHS?

\*\*\*

A VBT businessman told me he saw a strange sight at about 1:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 29. In looking from Belleville Road it was in the direction of Willow Run Airport. He said it was a blue, clear, triangle of light, with a streak behind it. It was moving from the west slowly and then just disappeared.

He said he saw two, egg-shaped, lighted circles over the airport last summer.

Anyone else seeing strange things at Willow Run?

\*\*\*

At about 6:44 a.m. Monday I heard a call on the police scanner for a female giving birth to a child in the block of West Huron River Drive near Elwell. VBT fire fighters responded at once. At 7:10 a.m. it was announced, "Transporting two to St. Joe's."

But Fire Chief Dan Besson said actually, HVA had to stop the ambulance enroute so the mother could give birth. Then the "two" continued to the hospital.

Life's little dramas go on all about us all

the time and sometimes we get to share in the story.

\*\*\*

Egan's Pub had a countdown clock running for the next big event - the Halfway to St. Patty's Day party - on Sept. 20.

Then they were influenced to reprogram it to be the countdown clock to the retirement of Van Buren Township Police Lt. Dennis Brooks. It's under 100 days now, and so many hours and minutes.

Dennis, who lives just over the Denton Road bridge from the pub, apparently enjoys the food and fun at Egan's and they are helping him with his countdown.

Jen at Egan's said one of Dennis' sons is in the Michigan State Police now and so she sends him a picture of the clock every so often. Dennis' other son, David, who used to work for the Belleville PD now works for Romulus PD. He checks out the clock in person.

\*\*\*

Opening Day ceremonies are set for the Van Buren Area Little League on Saturday and it's sure to be a grand occasion. There has been a scheduling problem lately between the Little League teams and the traveling teams that are paying VBT to use the Beck Road ball fields. Hope it gets straightened out soon.



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## Letters

### Travel teams at Beck may ruin what should be fun

To the Editor:

My name is Chantell Nichols and I was born and raised in the Belleville area and grew up playing t-ball then softball up at Beck Fields. Now my children have the joy of playing t-ball up at Beck Fields like I did some 25 years ago, but now there is a different look, one that I find very appalling: Travel teams using the fields that were built by Little League volunteers and designated Little League.

I don't know anything about travel baseball, nor do I care to know, but what I do know is that travel organizations charge a ridiculous price to play ball and strut around like they are the best that ever swung a bat.

Beck Fields were not designed to host arrogant travel programs that believe winning is the only option.

The team my son and daughter play on had its practice time rescheduled and shortened because the township gave this travel program all of the fields two days a week.

I haven't had a chance to meet the new board, but from what I see being done with the fields and equipment they are doing a good job and everyone is excited to play at Beck once again and I hope for all the youngsters playing at Beck that the township doesn't allow these travel programs to ruin what makes Beck Fields fun.

Maybe the township board, or whoever allowed travel teams at Beck, should spend some time up there watching how much fun the little ones have regardless if they win or lose.

Very Frustrated Taxpayer  
Chantell Nichols

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## Stamp Out Hunger: Put food by your mailbox

To the Editor:

"Stamp Out Hunger." This Saturday, May 10, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will celebrate 22 years of working toward getting rid of hunger in this country.

Locally, the Belleville postal carriers under the coordination of Lynn Taylor are collaborating with the First United Methodist Church to fill the shelves of the food closet, located in the church. The food closet serves people from Van Buren and Sumpter townships and the City of Belleville.

Last year the Belleville carriers collected more than 7 tons of food, 14,107 pounds (2,000 more than in 2012). This food was valued at \$24,000. This helped to feed 7,038 clients of the FUMC food closet.

This year we are asking residents throughout the community to place non-perishable, non-expired food and toiletry items in bags by their mailboxes so their letter carriers can collect the donations. All types of goods are needed, but especially canned fruits, canned vegetables, canned meats such as tuna and chicken, Mac and Cheese, peanut butter and cereal, as well as toiletries.

The food will be sorted, packed, and stored at the church on Saturday, May 10, starting at 11 a.m. and volunteers are needed to help. Contact Sandy Askew at [sandyaskew@aol.com](mailto:sandyaskew@aol.com) for more information.

The Belleville Post Office food drive is really important to our food closet as the tons of food collected are distributed in the weekly bags that are packed for our clients. The need is especially true during the coming summer months when school is out and so many children are dependent on breakfast and lunch at school. The food closet is the main source of food for some of these children. The food closet is also seeing an increase in need by the elderly in our community.

Hunger is a very real problem for some in our community. Please consider joining the letter carriers in their fight to "STAMP OUT HUNGER."

Sandy Askew, Food Closet Director  
Belleville First United Methodist Church

"Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results."  
— Albert Einstein



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## More Letters

### Thanks to Judge Parrott for generous donation

To the Editor:

It is a special situation when a political fund raiser can benefit a non-profit, and we would like to publically thank Judge David Parrott for his generous donation.

Judge Parrott's Re-election Committee packaged, stored, and delivered food from his birthday party.

This thoughtful act helped defray costs associated with the F.O.E.'s Funeral Luncheon Services. The luncheons perform a very important service to our membership by assisting bereaved families through a difficult time.

Sincerely,

Barbra Brasington

Funeral Luncheon Volunteer

Woman's Auxiliary

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#3996

### Kelly McCann earns AAS degree at Ferris State Univ.

Kelly McCann of Belleville earned an Associate in Applied Science degree in Restaurant and Food Industry during the semester that ended December 2013 at Ferris State University.



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# Obituaries



Ruth Winifred Walker

## RUTH W. WALKER

(December 7, 1921 - May 2, 2014)

Ruth Winifred Walker, age 92, of Fayetteville, TN, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, May 2, 2014 at Donaldson Care Center, Fayetteville, TN. She was born December 7, 1921 in Cleveland, OH, daughter of George W. and Verna W. (Notwell) Morrison.

She was a long-time resident of Belleville, residing at Columbia Court before moving to Tennessee to spend time with her son Paul and his wife Linda.

Ruth was active in her church, the Merriman Road Baptist Church, Garden City, several bowling leagues at Lodge Lanes in Belleville and the IOOF of Dearborn and Texas.

She loved crafts, bowling, and especially spending time with her family.

She is survived by son Richard (Karen) Edwards, daughter Claudia McKenzie, and son Paul (Linda) Edwards; grandchildren Terry (Cindy) Edwards, Eric (Jennifer) Edwards, Stephanie Edwards, Spencer (Mary Ann) McKenzie, Patrick McKenzie, Jane McKenzie, Mathew (Terri) Edwards, Kenneth Edwards, Dennis (Stefanie) Edwards, as well as 19 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband Harry M. Walker on May 12, 1995.

Visitation will be 9-10 a.m. for the family on Sunday, May 11, 2014, and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. for friends at David C. Brown's Temporary Viewing Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Drive, Belleville. The funeral service will be 1-2:30 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of the family and would be appreciated. Please sign her on-line guest book and share a memory for her family to cherish at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## CLARENCE LEWIS PATTON

Clarence Lewis Patton, age 46, of Sumpter Township, died May 3, 2014. Arrangements are pending through Janowiak Funeral Home, Sumpter Chapel. Obituary at [janowiakfuneralhome.com](http://janowiakfuneralhome.com).



Anthony 'Tony' Piskorski



## ANTHONY CHARLES PISKORSKI

Anthony "Tony" Charles Piskorski, 77, of Land O' Lakes, FL passed away Tuesday, April 29, 2014. Tony was born in Hamtramck, MI and was a long-time resident of Belleville, MI before retiring to Florida in 2005.

He served as a United States Marine in Korea. Tony worked at Ford Motor Company's Rawsonville plant for 35 years before retiring with 42 years with the company. Tony enjoyed helping others, watching John Wayne movies, and working outside in the yard.

Tony is survived by his loving wife of 36 years, Brenda (Johnson) Piskorski of Land O' Lakes, FL; two sons, Michael Piskorski of Belleville, MI and Matthew Piskorski of Canton, MI; two daughters, Megan Piskorski of Land O' Lakes, FL and Crystal Sparks of Perris, California; six grandchildren and one great granddaughter.

## ZACHARY 'ZAC' LEWIS LOVELACE

(February 13, 1996 - May 1, 2014)

Age 18, of Michigan Center, formerly of Ypsilanti, died at Mott Children's Hospital after an extended illness. Survived by parents Jason Lindsey & Heather Lovelace and sisters Jocelyn & Kaylee. Janowiak Funeral Home.



Christopher Earl Tacia



## CHRISTOPHER EARL TACIA

(March 5, 1970 - May 2, 2014)

Christopher Earl Tacia, age 44, of Waterford, formerly of Belleville, MI, passed away Friday, May 2, 2014 at his home. He was born March 5, 1970 in Farmington Hills, MI, son of Vincent Alex and Carol Phyllis (Foy) Tacia.

Chris worked for L & W for 23 years and just recently starting working for Chrysler as a tool & die Maker. He enjoyed fishing, flying helicopters, model boats and trains, playing guitar, restoring classic cars and traveling in northern Michigan.

He is survived by two sons Matthew Tacia of Taylor, MI and Brendan Tacia of Waterford, MI; his mother Carol Moss of Belleville, MI; brother Paul (Dawn) Velez of Allen Park, MI; sister Julie Tacia of Belleville; three nephews; his former wife Shyla Tacia of Westland, MI; also numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, his father Vincent Tacia, and his step-father Gene Moss.

Visitation was 5-6 PM Monday, May 5, 2014 with a 6 PM Funeral at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel, 500 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the funeral home to help defray expenses and would be greatly appreciated by the family. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## WALTER STANLEY PILISKO

(March 15, 1915 - May 1, 2014)

Walter Stanley Pilisko, age 99, of Van Buren Township, MI, formerly of Midland, passed away on Thursday, May 1, 2014 at Cedar Woods Assisted Living, Van Buren Township. He was born in Pinconning, MI, on March 15, 1915, son of late Stanley and Julia (Grzywacz) Pilisko.

Walter is survived by two children, Diane Pilisko of Belleville, MI, and Walter (Sherry) Pilisko of Texas; and two grandchildren, Nicholas (Stephanie) Pilisko and Alex Pilisko.

Mr. Pilisko is of the Catholic faith. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during WWII, and was a life member of the Midland VFW Post #3651. He loved to go fishing and tinkering cars.

Preceded in death by his wife Helen in 2005, two sisters Helen and Ann, and two brothers Eugene and Jerry.

A graveside service took place at Great Lakes National Cemetery Holly, MI on Monday, May 5, 2014 at 12:30 with military honors.

Please sign his on line guest book and share a memory for his family to cherish at [www.davidcbrownfh.com](http://www.davidcbrownfh.com).

## ROCHELLE P. SCHUMACHER

(August 29, 1960 - May 2, 2014)

Age 53, of Ann Arbor. Survived by two daughters, a grandson, parents, grandmother, two sisters and a brother. Services were May 6 at David C. Brown Temporary Viewing & Funeral Chapel in Belleville.

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## More Letters

### Leaders should develop a patriotic backbone

To the Editor:

Today I watched two old bombers flying around Van Buren Township, built locally, no doubt. Is not this area called the "arsenal of democracy?" Certainly, bomber planes built here were called "liberators" for a reason.

The slogan says, "If you value your freedom, thank a vet." The ingrates who comprise Van Buren leadership do not appreciate the Greatest Generation, both the Rosie Riveter types AND vets.

Here they are, sitting two miles from a plant so prominent that President Roosevelt came to it AND for no reason they will not back a movement to get Lansing government to build a memorial to these elderly heroes!

Why? Well, maybe because they did not think of it first. Who did? A man who has ancestors heroic in WWII.

He is Tim King from Ypsi whose biggest sin is that he is into Tea Party. No, not the Boston one, the Ypsi one.

That prompted the Van Buren leadership to LITERALLY turn their backs at Tim King. That was classy! T.E.A. stands for Taxed Enough Already. Taxation!

Tim King asked them to show support for the WWII memorial by signing a petition for that like several other close by government entities have also done.

Tell these leaders to stop playing petty politics and develop a patriotic backbone.

Richard Valencourt  
Ypsilanti



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### We appreciate the paid meal so very much

To the Editor:

We were in our vehicle in line outside of the McDonald's on Belleville Road on Friday, April 25, when we got a big surprise.

The person at the pick-up window said, "The lady in front of you paid for your meal." There was nothing for us to pay.

We were so surprised and appreciated it so much.

We just wanted to let her know that we will pass it on. We will pass it on.

Glen and Millie Davidson  
Belleville

### Community's amenities increase home values

To the Editor

The Belleville area (Belleville, Van Buren and Sumpter townships) is considering a major expansion of the library and a significant increase in the library operating budget, both of which, unfortunately but necessarily, will be reflected in increased taxes. Let's take a look at what we'll be buying with our tax dollars if we support the library expansion program, and how many tax dollars will be required.

The main library building will be able to offer library patrons more space for books, computers, audio and video materials, as well as more space for small group studying, one-on-one tutoring, quiet reading areas, and other variously sized rooms that can be used for meetings and library programs.

The main building will have 70 computers and the added advantage of a computer lab where computer classes can be offered. The budget for books and other materials will be doubled. More library programs and activities will be available, including an early childhood literacy area in the children's room. With the increased space, the library will be able to increase programming for all age groups; something that is not possible at the current location. Due to the increased funding, the main library building will be able to increase hours of operation, including the ability to

be open seven days a week.

The main library building will be located just across the Belleville Road bridge. Also being planned is a South Satellite library location in the Sumpter Township Community Center. Initially, the satellite will be open at least 28 hours a week and will have 18 computers on site. Depending on the needs of library patrons the hours of operation could be adjusted. The South Satellite will also be able to offer computer classes, programming, children's story times, inter-library deliveries, as well as after-hours pick up and drop off of materials.

So, how this will affect your budget? The average millage rate to pay off the bond for constructing and equipping the new main library building plus renovating and equipping the South Satellite location would be 0.96 mills. The increase in the millage for operating the main and satellite locations would be 1.00 mills (added to our present millage of 0.70 mills). The combined cost of the bond and the increase in the operating millage would, therefore, be 1.96 mills. To determine the increase in your tax bill, multiply your home's taxable value by 0.00196. For a home worth \$150,000 and having a taxable value of \$75,000, this would average \$147/year.

A community's amenities increase local home values and bring more visitors and businesses to the area. Our new high school is one of those amenities. Our library should be, too.

Rick Dawson  
Belleville Resident

**Editor's Note:** The millage figure stated by the writer is for the average year. For the first year, 2014, the bond millage would be 1.08 mills, so added to the 1.0 mill for operation, also on the ballot, the first year would be 2.08 mills. So, you should multiply 0.00208 times your home's taxable value for the 2014 figure. This is slightly more the first year, but we need to be as specific as possible when explaining this to the voters. The 1.96 mills would be the average for the rest of the 20 years of the life of the millages.

### Let's talk about this project, not old writings...

To the Editor:

My letters about the Belleville Area District Library fiasco seem to have drawn blood from Ms. Priest. Her castigations about my financial situation, my beliefs, and my character are pure speculation and figments of an imagination well immersed in self-aggrandizement, egregious reasoning, and an extrapolation of facts.

Suffice it to say, these letters will in no way become a vehicle of personal vehemence, but more an attempt to motivate, invigorate, and create an awareness of a financial debacle being foisted upon the voting public.

Ergo, no more about the public good, old writings (that cannot be found in this library), or self-appeasement by picayune illusions.

I wonder if Mr. Whistler is going to continue to play "negotiating games" with impossible "chips?" His comment about giving up a "...paved walkway around the lake for a gravel walkway would save ..." would indicate his missing Subpart D: New Construction and Alterations, section 36.403 Alterations: Paths of travel of the American Disabilities Act. In particular subparagraph (a) General 1. An alteration that affects or could affect the usability of or access to an area ... useable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who use wheelchairs ..." through "(e) Path of Travel 1. A path of travel ... (further defined)."

Ergo the argument, "Well, we wanted to save money but legislation would not allow it!" And by the way, there are barrier walkways on the existing plan or are they going along with the pool?

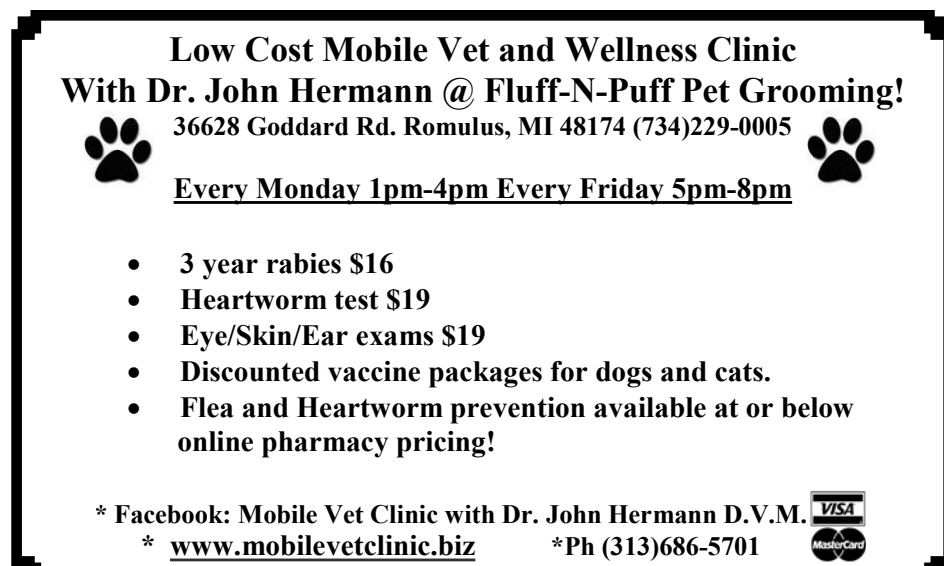
By the way, since when does the library function as a service station for automobiles? Wow, these indigents who the BADL is providing sustenance are arriving in their ELECTRIC AUTOMOBILES or is this re-charging station of \$6,800 another of Whistler's giveaways? Who pays for recharging?

And, while we're at it, Thomas Jefferson also said, "All tyranny needs to gain a foothold is for people of good conscience to remain silent." (And I wish I could afford an iPad.)

Library Bonds Vote NO!  
Sincerely,  
Cornell Anton, Jr.  
City of Belleville



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## More Letters

### Gov. Snyder, Van Buren are hurting our children

To the Editor:

Did any of you know that our fantastic Governor of Michigan, Mr. Snyder, has AGAIN made more cuts to Special Education Services? Making it even harder for my son Tristan who is one of the thousands of children to get special educational services in our public schools. Main-streaming is not the answer for all of our children! Some kids need tender hands and open minds to aid in their education.

Governor Snyder: Why are you taking from special needs children?

Why are you destroying any possible gains children make with the aid of paraprofessionals, speech, occupational, and physical therapists? To even make matters worse, those wonderful people who help and protect our children from

harm's way in public schools, you are annually cutting their wages making it nearly impossible for them to survive.

BUT yet they continue to work for those few peanuts because they genuinely care about the growth/development and love of our special children.

Snyder, are you doing this because our children don't have a voice to be heard? Is it because you know these children don't understand what you're doing to their lives? You're making it even harder for them in the future.

Is it because parents trust that our school system will do the right thing for our children? Most parents never question it because they assume the schools put our children's best interests first, which is so not the case anymore.

I no longer have faith in our Governor! You're a coward! What man purposely attacks disabled children to save money for the whole state?

Mr. Snyder, why don't you and your friends stop being Greedy HOGS? Why don't you and your buddies take pay cuts? How about you give up your annual pay increases?

Hey, why don't you and your buddies work for \$20,000 a year with no health care coverage and no pension?

Everyone, please question your school system. Please ask questions about what they are really providing for our kids, especially those with special needs.

Why is Van Buren once again cutting Special Education programming and not giving our teachers raises, BUT yet administration will still get their raises?

Why does my disabled son have to suffer through school alone, without the help he needs to have the opportunity to learn?

Can we get some answers from Van Buren School District Special Ed Director, or maybe the Superintendent?

Why you are again going to lay off more parpros? Why do you think one para can care for more than one child that has special needs?

Please share this message. Let's see if Snyder gets it.

Jessica Brissette  
Belleville

### Thunder Rolls in Belleville on May 26

Dear Community,

This Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, the Brown Funeral Home and Brown Family Center are proud to sponsor the 10<sup>th</sup>-annual "Thunder Rolls in Belleville."

This is a special tribute to honor all veterans, especially those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, giving their lives to protect our nation. This is our 10<sup>th</sup>-year anniversary and once again we are proud to sponsor and organize this honorable event. Please consider coming out to honor our veterans this day.

The ceremony is preceded by a one-hour, police-escorted motorcycle ride through parts of Van Buren Township and then into Belleville. Participants in the ride register and line up for the ride starting at 11 a.m. in Wayne County Community College Western Campus' front parking lot located just north of the Haggerty Road/Interstate 94 intersection, on Haggerty Road in Belleville (9555 Haggerty).

More than 300 bikes are expected this year with the number increasing every year. We have all makes of bikes with many of the riders being veterans themselves.

Many proudly fly our American Flag during the ride. It is quite a sight to see. We even post the map of the ride in the local newspapers and have many who stand along the route waving their flags and cheering the riders on. There is a \$10 donation for riders and all riders are welcome. Each year a special pin is designed and given out to all paying riders. The money will benefit local veterans and their families.

The bikers make their way to Belleville's Veteran's Memorial in Horizon Park,

located off Belleville Lake on High Street, west of Main Street. The estimated arrival time is between 2 and 2:30 p.m. Once all are assembled we will then begin the heartfelt ceremony.

The Honor Guards of Belleville's VFW and PLAV and Honor Guards of Canton's Young Marines lead us in the ceremony. We usually have a few different speakers each year.

During the ceremony there will be a time in which we will honor local veterans who have died in the past year by announcing their names in a bell-ringing ceremony. If you have a name to add of a veteran that has died this past year, please give us a call and we would be honored in mentioning their name.

The ceremony is also filled with special songs and prayer and a meaningful performance of Taps by a local veteran. The ceremony itself will be approximately one hour.

Again, we would like to invite you to come out and participate in this ride and ceremony.

Please call Kathie or Mary at (734) 697-5090 or email [browngriefcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:browngriefcenter@yahoo.com) for more information.

Thank You!

Mary Martinez & Kathie Steigerwald  
David C. Brown Funeral Home/Brown Family Center  
Belleville

### Sometimes one parent is both mom and dad

To the Editor:

Sunday will be Mother's Day.  
Dear Moms and Dads:

I know there is a special day for each of you. But sometimes circumstances beyond our control makes it necessary for one parent to hold down being both mom and dad. So this letter is to you.

We appreciate you both all rolled into one. Mom works and keeps us fed and provides a roof over our heads. She loves us as she goes about being mom and dad.

Dad, we appreciate you for taking on the role of mom. You cook and help us with our homework before you prepare to go to work. We love spending time with you and being our dad as well as our mom.

May this special day be celebrated together.

Sincerely,  
Marian Caldwell, Van Buren Township

**Quarter Maina Fundraising Event**  
**Tuesday, May 13th, 2014**  
**JT's Pub n Grub**  
**41111 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI**  
**TIME: check in 6:00pm, start 7-9pm**  
*Proceeds go to the Susan G. Komen 3 Day Breast Cancer Walk.*  
Bid on quality vendor item/s & WIN for 1-2 quarters, items value \$15 and up to \$100. Amazing raffle baskets, 50/50, vendor raffles & more. Entry fee: \$5 includes one paddle. Additional paddles \$2 each, unlimited. Go to our Facebook page "QUARTERMANIA" for updates.

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### Loren Edwards named to Academic Honors List at Ferris State University

Loren Edwards of Belleville is among the more than 4,487 students receiving Academic Honors for the semester that ended in December 2013 at Ferris State University and Kendall College of Art and Design.



# School Board not interested in cell tower at Haggerty School site

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
Independent Editor

AT&T has requested leasing a 10,000 square foot piece of property at Haggerty School to put up a 130' cell tower and surround it with a six-foot cyclone fence with barbed wire.

This would be in the grass southwest of the parents' parking lot near Haggerty Road, said James Williams, the district's director of building and grounds, in explaining the offer to the Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education at its work/study session on April 28.

Although there are no votes at work/study sessions, the board showed no interest in pursuing the offer.

AT&T offered to pay \$750 a month (\$9,000 a year) for five years and then up it by 7.5% for the next five years and increase it again each five years for a 25-year total lease.

He said it would be a mono tower, with things on the top. A flagpole tower has a

lower lease rate but is more aesthetically pleasing, he said.

The tower would be near the Woodbury Green residential community next to the school.

"I asked about radiation and they said there is no proven evidence of radiation," Williams said.

School Supt. Michael Van Tassel said his cabinet discussed the offer and thought the money was not enough and that the board should not move forward.

"Most schools are doing this when it's far back, away from the road," he said.

Board vice president Martha Toth suggested AT&T might like to find an unused corner in the nearby Metropark to use.

"We don't really know what towers do or don't do," Supt. Van Tassel said, adding he had concerns about the health of the children at the school and with being a good neighbor.

He said the Woodbury Green complex

doesn't have very good cell reception.

The board informally agreed not to pursue the offer.

In other discussions at the meeting, the board:

- Heard Curriculum Director Diane Kullis present the North Central Accreditation Progress Report prepared for the AdvancED Quality Assurance Review, which is due to the state on May 1. She explained that in 2012, the state found five required actions for VBPS and this is the required report to give them to show the district is in compliance. The report will be reviewed by the state, then go to the national, and then come back to say "we're good to go or have things to do," she said. She said the district has done a lot in the last two years, which she has recorded in the report;

- Heard an update on the Human Resources Department, with Director Shonta Langford-Green outlining 11 areas of HR she is working on, including: staffing assignments by the end of May, open enrollment in May, Benefit Fair from 3-5 p.m. on May 20 at the Belleville High School Commons with lots of incentives, negotiations for all units as part of the salary reopeners, paraprofessional bidding, staff evaluations, monthly employee contests, finally completing the auditing of personnel files, and the Affordable Care Act, a big project, which includes all the taxes added to the district, which amounts to 4-6%;

- Heard Financial Director Karen Moffitt explain the complexities of special education funding. She said the district spends a total of \$4.4 million on special education and \$1.1 million of that is not reimbursed. Van Tassel said the rule of thumb is that two-thirds of what it costs is reimbursed. "It is rule after rule, layer after layer," Van Tassel said of special education funding. He said it's difficult to do projects because of the uncertainty of the funding, but he is "pleased with our budget office for the work over the last two and a half years";

- In response to a question from the *Independent*, heard Williams report that the work is being completed to cablecast the school board meetings and the cablecasts may be up and running for the May 12 meeting. Van Tassel said the meetings will be broadcast live and replayed; and

- Heard BHS Principal Abdul Madyun report he went to Keystone Charter Academy, which teaches students through eighth grade, and got 32 students signed up for BHS next fall. He said he is going to other charter schools as well to show that BHS is an option.

After the meeting, the board and audience members took a tour of the Einstein Room, a Student Center, and a Presentation Room at BHS. The special rooms have recently been completed and will be open to students next school year.

## VB T Clerk again presides at Belleville High School election

On May 13, Van Buren Township Clerk Leon Wright will again put on the Belleville High School Student Council election in the BHS Commons using regular voting machines and coded ballots.

Students will serve as poll workers and will check student identification before issuing coded ballots and directing voters to voting booths.

Ballots will be entered into one of two M100 voting tabulators and votes will be tallied electronically at the end of Election Day.

Clerk Wright said his goal in providing this true-to-life experience for students is to foster a lifelong commitment to voting and active participation in the voting process.

This project is made possible through donations from The Charles B. Cozzad Rotary Foundation, Attorney Patrick McCauley, Wade Trim Engineering, and

the Van Buren Public Schools.

Clerk Wright thanked Elections Systems & Software and Inland Press for the ballot production and coding.

## Homeless rabbit

Sylvia Farmer found a rabbit in a cage in one of her condos she had rented out. The renters had fled, leaving the unfed bunny alone in the vacant home. She didn't know how long the bunny had been uncared for. Farmer first fed the rabbit and then looked everywhere for a new home for the pet. Finally, after many calls, she took the bunny to Willis Feed Mill. They took in the bunny and put it with their other rabbits in the barn where people come in to shop. She wanted everyone to know how kind those at Willis Feed Mill were to take in the homeless rabbit.

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## Visteon unveils new Innovation Center at Grace Lake site

Visteon Corporation (NYSE: VC) has unveiled a new Innovation Center at the global automotive supplier's corporate headquarters in Van Buren Township, according to a news release sent out by Visteon.

The state-of-the-art facility combines a technology showroom with a conferencing area, design studio, collaboration space and "experience lab" aimed at fostering creativity and teamwork in delivering new products and solutions for automakers, the news release said.

"The innovation center is a reflection of Visteon's global vision for developing leading-edge technology in our core cockpit electronics and climate businesses," said Visteon President and CEO Timothy D. Leuliette.

"It provides a welcoming and functional workspace that encourages rich dialogue and an exchange of creative ideas among customers, employees and strategic partners."

The progressive, 7,600-square-foot innovation space was designed to offer a premium experience for customers who visit the center, as well as for the industrial designers and innovators who work there, the release said.

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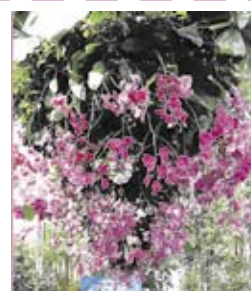
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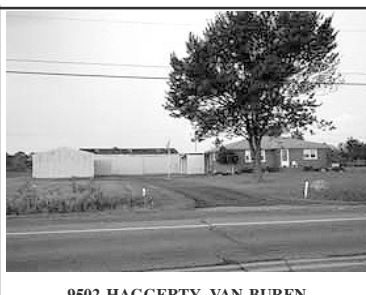
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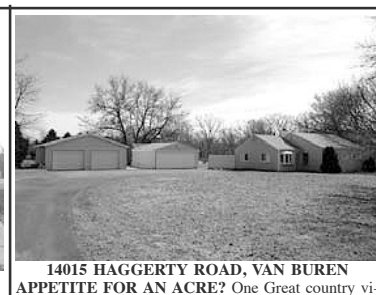
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**48195 BAYSHORE DRIVE, VAN BUREN**  
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**14015 HAGGERTY ROAD, VAN BUREN**  
APPETITE FOR AN ACRE? One Great country vinyl ranch featuring 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, Brand New Furnace and Brand New Water Heater. A home of considerable convenience, close to Lower Huron Metropark, Freeways, Metro Airport and Shopping. Paved Street and Paved Drive plus TWO-2-1/2 CAR GARAGES make this a must see property. Offered at \$119,900.



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**44709 LAKE CREST DRIVE, VAN BUREN**  
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## Ret. Marine Col. Mullin named director of Willow Run Airport

Wayne County Airport Authority (WCAA) CEO Thomas Naughton has appointed Christopher J. Mullin, USMC Colonel (Ret.), to the position of Director of Willow Run Airport (YIP).

Colonel Mullin has an extensive association with aviation in numerous assignments with the United States Marine Corps. He retired from active duty in October after 29 years of service.

"Col. Mullin has wide-ranging experience in strategic planning and an impressive background in aviation," said Naughton. "We are very pleased to have him on

board."

Col. Mullin lives in the suburban Detroit area with his wife Chantal, son Jake, and daughters Fiona and Rori.

Col. Mullin has amassed more than 2,500 flight hours in the O/A-4M Skyhawk, UH-1N Huey, OV-10 A/D Bronco and the F/A-18D Hornet.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star denoting the second award, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Strike/Flight Air Medal with the numeral "9", the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with Combat "V" and four gold stars denoting the fifth award, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

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## Court Watching:

# Sumpter resident pleads guilty to accosting child for immoral purposes

By Diane Madigan

Independent Court Reporter

On April 30 in Wayne County Circuit Court, Paul Edward Henson, 43, of Sumpter Township stood with his Legal Aid defense attorney Donald Johnson to plead guilty as charged to a felony of accosting a child for immoral purposes.

In the plea deal, Henson will be on probation for five years, participate in a sex offender treatment program, be listed as a Tier 2 sex offender on the Sex Offender Registry and may not have any contact with children under the age of 16 years.

In Judge James R. Chylinski's courtroom at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Circuit Court, Frank Murphy Hall of Justice, Henson admitted on Oct. 9 to trying to talk a child under 16 into a sex act.

The victim was his 15-year-old step-daughter that was living with him, her mother and her grandmother on Nevada at the Holiday West Mobile Home Park in Sumpter Township.

According to the police report, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, on Oct. 9 Henson wrote a letter to the victim asking her to dress a certain way and inviting her into his bedroom while her mother was at work.

The victim told her school counselor about the letter which started a Child Protective Services investigation.

CPS removed the victim from the home and she is now living with her sister.

On Oct. 10, Henson went into the teen's bedroom to get the letter and then burned it.



Paul Henson

Then he tried to commit suicide, according to police records.

The police records show previous reports of Henson inappropriately touching the girl and sitting in her room while she slept.

Henson's bond was set at \$50,000 or 10% and he posted bond and was released.

Henson will be sentenced on May 23 in Judge Chylinski's courtroom.

## Court Watching:

# Dale Phifer waives exam, bound over to Circuit Court in Detroit

By Rosemary K. Otzman

Independent Editor

Dale Kenneth Phifer, 76, of Van Buren Township waived his preliminary exam at the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court on April 30 and was bound over to Circuit Court for an arraignment on the information on May 14 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice.

Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green continued the \$2,000 personal recognizance bond for Dale Phifer.

Dale and his son Kirkwood Lane Phifer, 24, were arrested Nov. 13 at their home on Bog Road – Dale for possession of 83 marijuana plants and Kirkwood for possessing 65 tablets of LSD.

At an April 1 court session, attorney Charles Todd Inness, who was representing both Phifers, asked that his name be withdrawn as Dale's attorney because Dale could not afford to pay for an attorney.

Dale's court-appointed attorney David Lankford asked for Dale's preliminary exam to be postponed from the April 2 date set until April 23 to give him time to review the evidence and to review Michigan's medical marijuana law.

The exam was postponed again until April 30. That's when Dale Phifer waived his preliminary exam and was bound over

to circuit court.

At the April 2 court session, Kirkwood Phifer was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information on April 16 before Judge James Chylinski.

On April 29, Kirkwood Phifer accepted a plea deal and pled guilty to the first charge of delivery/manufacture of non-narcotic schedule 1, 2, and 3 drugs. The other two charges were dismissed: delivery/manufacture of 5-45 kilograms of marijuana and delivery/manufacture of schedule 4 drug.

Kirkwood Phifer was referred to the probation department for a pre-sentence report. Sentencing was set for 9 a.m. May 29 before Judge Chylinski.

VBT Detective Donovan McCarthy was the officer in charge on the Phifer cases.

Other local cases before Judge Green on April 30 included the following.

**Mark Wayne Clark**, who was in custody on Van Buren Township Police charges of retail fraud, was bound over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information at 9 a.m. May 7 after waiving his preliminary exam. Clark's bond was continued at \$75,000 or 10% and he remained in custody. Detective Marc Buxton is the officer in charge of the case.

**Alonzo Kendricks**, who is charged with operating while intoxicated-3<sup>rd</sup> and driving while license suspended-2<sup>nd</sup>, waived his preliminary exam. Judge Green bound him over to circuit court for an arraignment on the information at 9 a.m., May 14, at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. His bond is \$5,000 or 10% and he is out on bond. Court-appointed attorney is David Lankford. VBT Sgt. Jeff Gueli is the officer in charge on this case.

**Sharreaf Martinez Pugh** is charged with domestic violence by VBT Police. His court appearance was adjourned until 9 a.m. June 11.

**Antoine Lamar Lang** was set for a pretrial exam on stalking charges, but he did not show up in Judge Green's courtroom.

VBT Detective Marc Buxton is the officer in charge on this case.

**Jeffrey McFall** will return to Judge Green's courtroom on May 21. McFall is charged with domestic violence, didn't have an attorney, and requested a jury trial.

## White trial

(continued from page 1)

Houten explained that both parties agreed there were some very difficult discovery issues, voluminous documents, and there would be 50-60 witnesses, if the cases go to trial.

Judge Van Houten said at the Circuit Court level a strict 91-day track to trial is maintained. Williams said there is a considerable amount of money involved here.

"We have [three] five-inch binders of bank records and both parties will need to use forensic accountants," Judge Van Houten said. "Neither party can do this within 91 days."

Judge Van Houten set the trial date for Nov. 3 and said a two-to-three-week trial will be needed.

The attorney for the defendant and the prosecutor agreed there would be no adjournments or postponing of the trial date. All motions are due on Aug. 1 with a final conference on Aug. 8.

At Williams' request, Judge Van Houten agreed to consolidate the two cases into a single case going forward.

Official charges in the first case, filed Sept. 6, are uttering and publishing, larceny by conversion - \$20,000 or more, embezzlement, and two counts of identity theft.

In White's second case, which was filed Dec. 18, charges are one count of conducting a criminal enterprise and 14 additional counts of embezzlement.

White is accused of stealing an estimated \$11 million from widows, families, and estate beneficiaries



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## Upcoming Meetings

• Thursday, May 8 – Keystone Academy Board of Directors holds annual meeting and approval of budget, 6 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, May 12 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education meets at 7 p.m. at the Belleville High School Commons.

• Tuesday, May 13 – Van Buren Township September Days Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, VBT Local Development Financing Authority (LDFA), 2 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m., followed by regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7 p.m.

• Wednesday, May 14 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.



## More Letters

### Thanks for help with book sale, plant swap

To the Editor:

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Belleville Area District Library Used Book sale this past weekend and those who attended the annual May Plant Swap.

On behalf of the Friends of the Belleville Area District Library I would like to thank everyone involved in the plant swap including folks that were kind enough to bring their plants, the local businesses that provided donations, our wonderful volunteers, and the public for making this a successful event.

A special thank you to Kathy Kulwicki who organizes and runs the plant swap along with members of the Belleville Garden Club. Kathy was instrumental in getting support and donations from our local businesses.

Thanks go out to Sumpter Ace Hardware, Pinter's, Zywicki's and Banotai's greenhouses, Gardener's Choice, Van Buren Township, Jake Hunt's State Farm, TCF Bank, Garden Fantasy, and Remerica Main Street.

Another thank you goes to the Belleville Garden Club for all their hard work a couple of weeks ago cleaning the grounds and freshening up the landscaping around the library. They did a wonderful job removing the old leaves and plant debris.

Our spring flowers bloomed and looked very special in the clean flower beds.

Our May 3 Used Book Sale was a success for the Friends as well as everyone that picked up a great bargain on books, CD's, movies and more. Thanks to the huge efforts of Bonnie McRitchie, Carol Schank, and Linda Arnold, along with Nancy and Judy Fruit, Rich Thompson and Bob Schank for organizing the room and setting up all the books for display as well as the final take down and clean up so it could be used once again for other library functions. I always enjoy working this event and invite you to join us for the next one.

If you missed the book sale be sure to watch the library's Facebook page by liking it or log on to our Web Site at <http://www.belleville.lib.mi.us/> for all of the latest news on programs and events happening at the library.

Sincerely,  
Tony D'Onofrio, vice president  
Friends of the Belleville Area District Library

**THE BELLEVILLE  
INDEPENDENT NOW ACCEPTS  
CREDIT CARDS!**

(Minimum \$5 Purchase, Classified Ads Excluded)



### Women's Club sponsors Spring Fling fashion show for scholarships

The Belleville Women's Club put on its annual Spring Fling fashion show April 28 at the BYC clubhouse to earn funds for its scholarship program.

The scholarships are granted to Belleville High School students and to mature women who need assistance re-entering the workforce.

The evening included fashions from Kika, a clothing line out of California, that is made in the USA and specializes in personalized wardrobe consultations. Beth Campau was the stylist representing Kika.

Accessories and jewelry were provided by Lia Sophia and Grace Adele handbags.

The event included a silent auction, lots of raffles, and door prizes.

Hostesses for the evening were Kathie

### Romulus alumni planning Sept. 26 reunion for all classes

Students from all classes who graduated from Romulus High School are invited to the Romulus Alumni Reunion.

It is being planned for 5 to 11 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 26, at Wayne Tree Manor, 35100 Van Born Road, Wayne, between Wayne and Howe roads.

Cost is \$30 per person and a buffet dinner will be served at 6 p.m. B.Y.O.B. Coffee, tea, pop and mix will be provided.

Those wishing to attend should make out your check or money order to J. Biondi and note your class year on the check. Mail to: J. Biondi, 3030 Winifred, Wayne, MI 48184.

Biondi said to mail your check as soon as possible since a deposit has already been made for the site and another \$800 is due in April.

For more information call: Elsie Frazier Trivedi, (734) 722-5020; Carol (Cooley) Grazcyk, (734) 697-5674; JoAnne (Gabrys) Biondi, (734) 722-1638; or Al Preis, (734) 697-0092.

Timeless Images by Susan

Models in the fashion show were, from left, Joyce Rochowiak, Jane Vesche, Shelly Brown-Chudzinski, Jackie Leick, Gloria Daughtery, Katherine Hudson, Colette McClinton and Carol Gomes. Also shown are, from left of that point, Leanna Bronni from Bronni Vision, Gail Costello of Mary Kay cosmetics, Dana Fortier of Grace Adele handbags, Beth Campau of Kika Fashions, and Dee Dee of Lia Sophia jewelry.

Steigerwald and Rebecca Thornell and commentary was provided by Randy Brown. The photography was provided by Susan Richardson of Timeless Images by Susan.

The Belleville Women's Club was formed in 1947. The group participates in community projects and is dedicated to

its high school scholarship fund. The club is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and participates in the Strawberry Festival, Christmas Parade and Harvest Festival. The club supports the Belleville Area Museum, Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Girlstown and First Step women's shelters.

### Huron School District "Completely Committed to Kids!"

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Fall Trimester 2014-2015 School Year  
Openings Include:

School	Grade Level	Vacancies
Brown Elementary	K	5
	1	2
	2	2
	3	5
	4	1
Miller Elementary	5	3
	K	5
	1	5
	2	3
	3	3
Renton Junior High	4	3
	5	5
	6	7
	7	7
	8	7
Huron High School	9	5
	10	5
	11	5
	12	5

Applications are available at the Huron School District Administration Building  
Applications will be accepted between the dates listed below.

May 5, 2014, through May 23, 2014.

32044 Huron River Drive, New Boston, MI 48164

For more information please call 734.782.2441 or visit our website at  
[www.huronschools.org](http://www.huronschools.org)



**Minding  
Your Business  
with Bob Mytych**



The *Independent* welcomes **Garden Fantasy Greenhouse & Florist** to our advertising pages just in time for Mother's Day this Sunday, May 11. Owners **Walt** and **Joyce Rochowiak** are celebrating their 39th Grand Opening with special giveaways for mom, including free plants, coffee, doughnuts, and a chance to win a hanging basket or a flat of flowers every hour in a free raffle.

Garden Fantasy's Collette McClinton is a certified floral designer and will make your Mom's Day the best with her own arrangements or from any of the special Mother's Day arrangements available this year through Teleflora.

Right now, purchase two hanging baskets and get one free or \$1 off annual flats with their ad coupons in today's paper. Mother's Day hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The business, located on Haggerty Road just north of I-94 in Van Buren Township, is open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (734) 699-7370 and visit [www.gardenfantasyflorist.com](http://www.gardenfantasyflorist.com)

**Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue** located in Sumpter Township is holding a microchip event this Saturday, May 10, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at **Feedrite Pet**

Store on Belleville Road. Call (734) 461-9458.

A **Quartermainia** fundraiser with the proceeds going to the **Susan G Komen 3-Day Breast Cancer Walk**, will take place Tuesday, May 13, from 6 to 9 p.m. at **JT's Pub & Grub** on East Huron River Drive near Haggerty Road. There will also be a raffle for baskets, a 50/50 drawing, vendor raffles, and more.

**West Branch Builders** and owner **Tim Bowman** has been serving our community with commercial and residential home building, remodeling, and improvements for more than 35 years. The company is licensed and insured. Call (734) 476-1098.

Congratulations to the **Bayou Grill**, which celebrated its 4th anniversary last weekend. Join them this Sunday for **Mother's Day Brunch**, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$10.99 for adults, \$5.99 for children under 10. Reservations are recommended. Call (734) 697-2300.

If Mom craves Mexican on Sunday, then **Dos Pesos Restaurant** on Belleville Road is taking reservations. Mom will also get free dessert. Call (734) 697-5777.

Following some structural repairs to the premises due to an automobile accident last month, **Armstrong's Funland Mini-Golf and Ice Cream** is opening this Saturday and will be offering a free flower to all ladies on Mother's Day. Call (734) 699-3550.

Be sure to check out **Tiffany Q Bra Boutique**, which celebrated its move to Downtown Belleville from the Kmart Plaza last Sunday with a grand opening. The specialty boutique caters to the hard-to-fit and hard-to-find bra sizes. Owner **Tiffany McCoy** features brands like Wacoal, Goddess, elomi, Enell Sports, Panache, and other brands. Call (734) 547-0477.

**Van Buren Township's Annual Drive-In Dog Clinic** is this Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the **Township's Water & Sewer** building at the municipal center. The clinic is conducted by **Dr. Graf of Belleville Animal Hospital**. For vaccine prices call (734) 699-8903. Dog licenses for VBT residents can also be purchased at the event.

An **Antique Appraisal Day** will take place on May 15, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Van Buren Township Hall. Admission is \$10 which includes one free appraisal. Every item thereafter is \$5 with the proceeds going to the Belleville Area Museum programs and events. Conducting the appraisals will be **Doug Dalton** and **Chuck Schmidt**. Appraisal days are also scheduled for July 17 and Sept. 18.

Want free color in the *Independent*? Here's how. Simply sign up for a year with us. If you're an advertiser that runs your ad with us every week anyway, the 52-week run will not only get your ad colorized by our award-winning production team, you'll save 35% off the total contract. To learn more, call me at (734) 699 9020.

*Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at 734-699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no charge to be in this column.*

## Correction: Detention pond would be on RV property, not wetlands

In the May 1 edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent* on page 3 we reported the regional detention pond that the Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority wants to build would be on the 25.77 acres of wetlands, called the Heritage Oaks Nature Preserve, owned by the Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy.

DDA Executive Director Susan Ireland said this is incorrect. She said the DDA does want to have access from the North I-94 Service Drive through the protected wetlands to the back of the National RV property next door.

The back part of the National RV property is where they want to build the large detention pond to be shared by local businesses.

But, Ireland said National RV has not yet agreed to sell the land it owns behind its business, but "is not unwilling to discuss it."

Ireland said VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Arthur Mullen, Dave Nummer and another Wade Trim engineer met March 7 with Executive Director Jill Lewis, staff members and the president of the board of the Land Conservancy to discuss the project.

Lewis told the *Independent* that they were approached with an extremely preliminary concept and talked to VBT about it just once. She said there were elements they found compelling which could enhance the public's experience of the land.

She said there is an easement on the land by the Detroit Audubon Society and other things that need to be addressed. Lewis said she will wait until there is a more concrete plan in writing to take to her board.

-- Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

## New items come to Museum Gift Shop

The Belleville Area Museum just received an order of 6"x6" ceramic trivets in its Gift Shop featuring postcard pictures of the original Belleville High School, the Belleville Wabash train station, and the old Van Buren Township Hall, at \$10 each or two for \$18.

Also available are magnets and note cards featuring the same photos. Only a few are available and are on a first-come basis. Popularity will encourage the order of additional vintage postcard photo memorabilia.



# FINAL AUCTION

## Saturday May 17, 2014 at Jacobs Boots & Saddles

*Complete dispersal of barn and yard equipment and all remaining store inventory and fixtures.  
Including: 2 riding lawn tractors, ladders, wheelbarrows, saddle racks, etc., etc., etc..*

**Registration at 9:00 a.m.**

**Auction Starts at 11:00 a.m.**

*To Be Held In The "Big Red Barn"*

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*North I-94 Service Drive, & West of Belleville Rd.*

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*Store is Open Regular Hours.*

**Food Concessions Available Day of Auction.**

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## Questions for the Aug. 5 Primary Election

### I. BONDING PROPOSITION

Shall the Belleville Area District Library, formed by City of Belleville, Charter Township of Van Buren, and Township of Sumpter, each in the County of Wayne, State of Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed Nineteen Million Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$19,050,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds for all or a portion of that amount for the purpose of constructing, furnishing and equipping a new building for library purposes; constructing renovations to, furnishing and refurbishing and equipping and re-equipping an existing building for library purposes; and acquiring sites for library buildings?

The following is for informational purposes only:

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2014 is 1.08 mill (\$1.08 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation). The maximum number of years the bonds may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is twenty (20) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 0.96 mill (\$0.96 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation).

### II. DISTRICT LIBRARY OPERATING MILLAGE PROPOSAL

This proposal will allow the District Library to levy additional millage in the City of Belleville, Charter Township of Van Buren, and Township of Sumpter for library operating purposes.

Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be assessed against all taxable property within the geographic boundaries of the Belleville Area District Library, Wayne County, Michigan, be increased by 1 mill (\$1.00 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 20 years, 2014 to 2033, inclusive, to provide funds for library operating purposes; the estimate of the revenue the District Library will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2014 is approximately \$1,352,779, of which the District Library will receive \$1,224,806 and the following entities will capture a portion of the revenues: Belleville Downtown Development Authority (\$24,891), Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority (\$73,050), and Van Buren Township's Local Development Financing Authority (\$30,032)?

## Library board

(continued from page 3)

DNR agenda for public comment, she was told that would be May 8.

When the *Independent* asked library board president Mary Jane Dawson where the public would send letters of comment on this site, Dawson gave a convoluted direction to go on the DNR website and push this button and that button.

The *Independent* asked if the board couldn't provide more precise information to the public and Dawson replied, "It's not our meeting!"

The *Independent* replied, "But, it's your project!"

Letters also are sought to support the grant applications the DNR will write to

help pay for the fishing amenities.

Later in the meeting, board members talked about all the work it took to get to this point. Dawson said State Rep. Diane Slavens was asked for help and they even called the governor's office for support.

In other discussion, Mary Ban asked about the Van Buren Township and Belleville Downtown Development Authorities, along with the VBT Local Development Finance Authority, that will cut into the millage, if passed, for the library. These amounts are spelled out in the Aug. 5 ballot language.

Belleville DDA will capture \$24,891; VBT DDA, \$73,050; and VBT LDFA, \$30,032. These will be annual captures for the 20 years of the bond.

Cichewicz said the DDAs will benefit when the district library passes its construction bond.

Architect Whisler said there's been no discussion with the Belleville DDA about adding amenities, but the Belleville and VBT DDA districts meet on the Belleville Bridge and together they could put up a decorative fence to make it safer for pedestrians going to the library.

## Keystone Academy Board OKs \$10,800 summer learning project

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

Keystone Charter Academy Principal Keturah Godfrey told school board members that last year's summer program was "incredibly effective for our whole school" so the board unanimously approved paying \$10,800 for this summer's program.

At the regular school board meeting on April 10, Principal Godfrey noted that she had not asked the board for money for many of her projects, which she funded out of her principal's fund, but this was too costly for her to handle alone.

The board has some \$53,000 in discretionary funds, so it considers requests from various departments.

Board members unanimously approved the \$10,800 for the ThinkStretch Summer Learning Program, as well as \$2,800 for seven iPads with covers to be used in the technology program, and \$400 for the Eighth Grade 2014 Graduation (dance and food).

Godfrey said last year the eight-week ThinkStretch program reduced the summer educational loss for students. Last year it was available only to pre-Kindergarten to fifth graders. The company now provides materials up to eighth grade, so every Keystone student can participate.

Katie Hartsock, coordinator of the program, said the cost covers workbooks for every student, 750 parent guides, a coordinator kit, and people from the company in Ann Arbor who will come in to host a ThinkStretch training event for parents.

Also, Wednesday playground sessions in

the summer coordinate with the summer studies. And, at the end of the program medals are given out to those who have participated.

Hartsock said teachers volunteer time on Wednesdays in the summer. They look at the scores of the students and work on their weaknesses. Popsicles also are part of the project.

She said 40-60 students attend the Wednesday sessions, and from two to four teachers volunteer, along with five administrators.

"I commend the teachers for volunteering," said board member William Johnson.

In other business at the April 10 meeting, the board:

- Approved the 2014-15 parent-student handbook, which has a few changes, including institution of the trimester, which has the same length of school year, but is broken into three segments. Also there were updates to the search and seizure of electronic devices during certain periods, which will be returned to students at the end of the day. Also, there is no alcohol on the premises and there is a change to include background checks for chaperones on field trips;

- Approved the 2014-15 school calendar, aligning the holidays with the Van Buren Public Schools schedule;

- Approved the audit letter of engagement with Plante-Moran. The financial audit will start the end of May for the fiscal year

ending June 30, 2014;

- Heard Principal Godfrey say recent studies show Keystone outperformed the Van Buren Public Schools in test scores in 11 categories out of 17. Board President Vesta Losen said her figures showed Keystone outperformed VBPS, Lincoln, and state scores in 16 out of 17 categories. Godfrey said she would check her figures; and

- Heard the representative of Bay Mills Community College, which charters Keystone, speak from a cell phone in the middle of the board table to say the board should advertise for new board members even if they don't need any at the moment. They could be on a waiting list.

## Amber Baker awarded Merit Scholarship from The University of Findlay

Amber Baker of Belleville was awarded a Merit Scholarship award for \$10,000 from The University of Findlay for the 2014-15 academic year.

Merit Scholarship awards are based on a student's final, cumulative high school grade point average (GPA) and ACT/SAT scores.





# City of Belleville Public Notice

## City of Belleville Regular City Council Meeting Minutes April 21, 2014

A regular meeting of the Council for the City of Belleville was called to order at 7:30 P.M., at the Municipal Building, 6 Main Street by Mayor Pro Tem Loria.

### 1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

### 2. ROLL CALL

Council Member Fielder	Present
Council Member Smith	Present
Council Member Tindall	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Loria	Present
Mayor Conley	Absent/Excused

### 3. PRESENTATIONS AND CITIZEN COMMENTS

Timothy King was present to ask City Council Members to sign a proclamation in support of funding a Willow Run Bomber Plant Memorial.

### 4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Motion by Smith, Second by Tindall to approve agenda as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Fielder, Second by Smith to approve the Regular City Council meeting minutes of April 7, 2014 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

### 6. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

### 7. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

None.

### 8. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### A. Open Bids – Newspaper of Record

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 14-037** to open sealed bid from Belleville-Area Independent. Rates for legal notices and classified ads: \$5.00 per column inch. Bid was referred to City administration for review and recommendation.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### B. Fourth Street Crosswalk

To be brought back to City Council for further discussion.

#### C. City Wide Yard Sale Date

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 14-038** to approve the dates of September 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of 2014 to conduct the annual city wide yard sale event.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### D. Sidewalk Sale Program

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to approve **Resolution No. 14-039** to authorize the City Manager to issue permits when requested to individual City businesses to hold sidewalk sales on Friday, Saturday and Sunday subject to specific rules. City reserves the right to deny permit request during special events.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### E. EVIP #3 – Employee Healthcare Premium Cost Share

Motion by Tindall, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 14-040** that pursuant to Public Act 152, City Council hereby elects to continue to institute a 20% monthly healthcare premium contribution by all City employees eligible for healthcare coverage.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & DEPARTMENTAL EXPENDITURES

Motion by Tindall, Second by Fielder to approve **Resolution No. 14-041** to approve accounts payable and payables over \$500.00 with the removal of payment to Fox Auto Parts, Inc. for an emergency repair in the amount of \$678.00 to be brought back for approval at a later date.

MOTION CARRIED.

#### 10. ACTION ITEMS FOR NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING

RFP for refuse collection.  
Animal Ordinance  
Special Events Ordinance  
Strawberry Festival Policies  
Fourth Street discussion

#### 11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tindall, Second by Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Long, City Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: May 5, 2014

Published: May 8, 2014

# Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Van Buren Township Planning Commission will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111, on **Wednesday May 28, 2014** at 7:30 PM to consider the following:

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 6-2-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren to amend and modify the provisions found in Section 4.01 General.

### Section 4.01 GENERAL

**DELETE SENTENCE “Uses for enterprises that are contrary to Federal, State or Local Laws or Ordinances are prohibited.”**

A complete text of the proposed amendment is available for review at the Planning and Economic Development Department during normal business hours from 7:30 am – 4 pm. Written comments will be accepted at department until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should contact the Planning and Economic Development Department at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting to request accommodations.

Published: May 8, 2014

Posted: May 2, 2014

# City of Belleville Public Notice

## Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee

## REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

### Flag Placement for Memorial Day 2014 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery. The flag placement project will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Volunteers are needed to help place the flags. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work - a small sacrifice for us in honor of those who fought to keep us free.

Join us to help honor our veterans as we prepare for Memorial Day 2014, an important year in the history of defending our liberty.

Lisa Long  
City Clerk/Treasurer



PUBLISH: May 1, 2014  
May 8, 2014

# City of Belleville Public Notice

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CITY OF BELLEVILLE

### PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The City of Belleville will hold a public hearing on the proposed sanitary sewer rehabilitation project for the purpose of receiving comments from interested parties. The hearing will be held during the regular City of Belleville Council meeting starting at 7:30pm on Monday, June 16, 2014 at the Municipal Council Chambers located at 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan.

The purpose of the proposed project is to provide rehabilitation to existing sanitary sewers and sanitary manholes throughout the City identified with structural defects during a City wide sewer cleaning and television investigation and manhole investigation program both completed in the Spring-Summer of 2013. Project construction will involve the rehabilitation of existing sewers utilizing trenchless technologies such as installation of cured-in-place pipe linings and sectional replacement of sewers by means of open cut excavation for those defects deemed too severe for trenchless technology to be utilized. The project will also involve the replacement of defective manhole components and the cured-in-place lining of the interior surface of manholes with structural defects or heavy infiltration and inflow into the sanitary sewer system.

The proposed project will extend the useful life of the existing sewer system. The estimated cost to users for the proposed project will be approximately \$630,380.

Copies of the project plan detailing the proposed projects will be available for inspection by the general public at the Office of the City Clerk, 6 Main Street, Belleville, Michigan. Written comments received before the hearing record is closed on June 16, 2014 will receive responses in the final project plan. Written comments should be sent to the City of Belleville's consulting engineer, Hennessey Engineers, 13500 Reeck Road, Southgate, Michigan.

Publish: May 8, 2014

**The Belleville-Area  
Independent New Website  
is Now Online! Visit us @  
[bellevilleareaindependent.com](http://bellevilleareaindependent.com)  
Read The Newspaper  
On The Web!**

## Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Friday, May 9** – The public is invited to a 5 p.m. Open House and Ribbon Cutting ceremony for Pryde Athletics, 290 Industrial Park Drive, Belleville. The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is putting on the event. The ribbon cutting will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by light refreshments and a tour of the facility.
- **Wednesday, May 14** – Enjoy a Fried Chicken Supper from 5 p.m. to sell-out at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Rd., New Boston. Adults \$10, children 12 and under \$5. Carry-outs start at 4:30 p.m.
- **Thursday, May 15** – A salad luncheon is served at noon at St. John's Lutheran church, 28320 Waltz Rd., Waltz, for a donation of \$8. Door prizes and a gift for everyone. For tickets call Diana at (734) 654-6366, M-F 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Sponsored by St. John's Ladies Aid/LWML.
- **Thursday, May 15** – The Other Book Club will meet at different restaurants throughout the Belleville area at 7 p.m. Contact the library (699-3291) for the location. Tonight is "Tell the Wolves I'm Home" by Carol Ritka Brunt.
- **Friday, May 16** – Six outdoor sculptures will be erected in locations around downtown Belleville. The truck will unload in the North Liberty Street parking lot behind the Fourth Street Square. Come out and watch.
- **Friday, May 16** – Outdoor Family Movie Night at Willow United Methodist Church, 36925 Willow Road, New Boston, (734) 654-9020. Movie is "Frozen," a Walt Disney Animation Studios big-screen comedy-adventure. Free admittance. Free popcorn.
- **Friday, Saturday, Sunday, May 16 -18** – St. Stephen Church in New Boston is hosting its 66<sup>th</sup>-annual Spring Polish Festival. Bands all weekend long including Fifty Amp Fuse on Friday (9 p.m.-midnight) and Sunday (5-8 p.m.). Saturday bands are Wingman (4-8 p.m.) and Boogie Dynamite (9 p.m.-midnight). Polish Mass held Sunday at 11:30 with Mike Carey. Info: 734-753-5268 or visit [www.ststephenfestival.com](http://www.ststephenfestival.com).
- **Saturday, May 17** – Join the volunteers who are placing American flags on the graves of veterans at Hillside Cemetery in Belleville in time for Memorial Day. Takes only about one hour of work for each volunteer. Begins at 8:30 a.m.
- **Saturday, May 17** – The BYC is hosting its annual cleanup of the shoreline around Belleville Lake and the City of Belleville and its DDA will have volunteers cleaning up the downtown. Join in for Beautification Day.
- **Sunday, May 18** – Off-leash playtime at 2 p.m. with other friendly Pugs and Pug owners at the Wayne County Fairgrounds, 10871 Quirk Road, Van Buren Township. [www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs](http://www.meetup.com/semichiganpugs)

# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## HELP WANTED

Drivers: Carter Express -- CDL-A. Dedicated Routes Romulus, MI to Smyrna, TN. Average 2695 miles/wk Solos up to 37 cpm to start. Home Weekly. No Slip Seat. No Touch. Newer Equipment. (855) 219-4838 5/15

HUNGRY HOWIE'S now hiring: Delivery Drivers, Pizza Makers & Assistant Managers with opportunity for advancement. Apply in store at Belleville location: 10784 Belleville Rd. 5/08

EXPERIENCED Cooks, Waitresses & Delivery needed. Funtastic Atmosphere. Apply at Lunch Box, 562 Main St. Belleville. 5/08

NEED A ROOF, SIDING, WINDOWS or Deck. Call Jeff. (734) 796-6769 5/22

## HELP WANTED

DRIVERS CARTER EXPRESS CDL-A: New Pay. Solos up to 38 cpm to start. Teams up to 47 cpm to start. Home Daily/Weekly, No Slip Seat. No Touch, Newer Equipment Dedicated \$195 per day Romulus to Anderson, IN (855) 219-4838 5/8

DRIVERS: RAPID GROWING GROCERY HAULER. New pay package, great benefits, newer trucks. Regional, home almost daily, CDL-A, 2 years exp. (855) 429-8442 5/08

HAIR STYLIST with Clientele needed at a Modern Salon w/ Friendly Workers. Bladez (734) 697-5600 5/8

## HELP WANTED

**Caring, mature, enthusiastic people needed to work with women who have disabilities. Part time call-ins could lead to full time. 32 hours/ midnights available along with call-offs. Will train the right person. \$7.90/hr. to start with paid for training. Please call (734) 461-2204**

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call (734) 697-1800 TFN

## HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

## More Letters

### Truck drivers don't want to be on Belleville Road

To the Editor:

Re: Costco trucks

As a truck driver, I will tell you we don't want to be on Belleville Road. Most trucks will use Ecorse Road. Via Michigan Ave. or I-275. Mostly I-275 to make use of the truck stop on that corner.

As for resident concerns of 100,000 trucks per year on Belleville Road, that would be more than 270 trucks per day, 365 days per year. That depot center would be lucky to have 150 trucks per week.

We can assume one-third of them on Belleville Road. That would be about 10 trucks per day, spread out from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., or roughly one per hour.

We need the jobs. Open the depot center.

Joe Flange

**Editor's Note:** Peter Kahn, Assistant Vice President of Real Estate for Costco, told the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees on April 14 that there will be 200 trucks per day that will enter, load up, and leave, with 95% in and out the same day. The operation would run from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., with most of the trucks in and out before noon, he said. The truck drivers will be encouraged to go north on Belleville Road to Ecorse or Michigan Ave., but, he said, the only trucks they can direct to go that way are the Costco trucks.

### Notice to Advertisers:

The Belleville-Area Independent will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The Independent's liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the Independent be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

**There's a good chance we're right in your neighborhood. We're looking for Direct Care Assistants to support persons we serve in their homes in the Belleville & Romulus communities.**

**\$8.25 total per hr. plus good benefits.**

**Call (734) 699-3808 or (734) 699-6543**

**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

## DIRECT CARE ASSISTANT

**Feel great about the work that you do helping people we serve in residential settings. Country home. Training provided. \$8.40 total per hr. plus good benefits.**

**Call (734) 753-4804 New Boston**

**Email resume to: [recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**

**Pizza Maker, Pizza Driver & Grill Cook Wanted. Apply In Person After 4 p.m. at RED ROOSTER PIZZERIA**

**51340 Willis Rd. Belleville**





# INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

## AUCTION

**JNG Auction Services**  
881 Sumpter Rd.

**ONLINE AUCTION:**  
**May 16 - 20**

Appliances: Maytag, Dyson, Hoover, Shark,  
GE, Magic Chef, LG, Tools, Collectibles,  
Household, Seasonal.

Accepting quality consignments and estates.

www.JNGAUCTIONS.com

**734-489-4636**

## GARAGE/YARD SALE

ST. ANTHONY'S SPRING RUMMAGE  
Sale. Friday & Saturday, May 16 & 17  
from 8 a.m./2 p.m. 5/15

GARAGE SALE Rain or Shine.  
46100 Bemis Rd. Belleville. May 8-9,  
10 a.m./4 p.m. May 10, 9 a.m./3 p.m. 5/08

GARAGE SALE - 41500 Bemis Rd.,  
Belleville. May 15-17, 9 a.m./5 p.m. 5/15

MOVING & GARAGE SALE. Wil-  
lis E. of Sumpter. May 9-10, 9 a.m./6  
p.m. May 11, 9 a.m./3 p.m. Trailer full  
of Furniture, Household, Boat motor. Too  
much to mention. Everything Must Go

## FOR SALE

**HAY FOR SALE**  
**Round Bales Only.**  
**Leave Message.**  
**734-587-2344**

16x32x7ft. Swimming Pool. Will have  
to take apart. Everything you need plus  
deck. Total price \$1,000 obo. Please call  
(734) 699-3292 5/08

HAMILTON Beach Blender, VGC, \$10.  
Christmas Decorations, Housewares,  
Jewelry, \$1-\$15. Entertainment Center,  
VGC, \$325 (734) 699-5391 5/15

18' 2003 Assembled Crest Pontoon  
Boat. 2010 40 h.p. Mercury Big Foot.  
2006 Galvanized Trailer. Fish finder  
and more. \$6,900 obo full package.  
(734) 753-4003 5/08

LAWN MOWER Trailer. Single Axle,  
12x6 1/2. Great for starting lawn business.  
\$750. (734) 697-1417 5/15

2004 HONDA 750 Motorcycle. Runs  
and Looks Great, Low miles. \$3,000.  
1980 7mm MAG BDL Rifle with good  
scope. Beautiful gun, Must see to  
appreciate. \$1,000 (702) 499-0356 5/15

## FOR SALE

TABLE TOP SINGER Sewing  
Machine, \$45. Portable Electric  
Typewriter, \$35. Knee hole Desk,  
7 drawers, \$200. (734) 697-7470 5/15

2002 SUGAR SAND 16 1/2 ft. Red Jet  
Boat. 210 hp. Merc. Engine. Trailer  
included. Very clean. Best Offer.  
(734) 699-1114 5/22

SELLING ALL REMAINING  
ITEMS from our store. Almost a  
1000 items. Men's/Woman's clothes,  
Purses, Shoes, & other items. With  
tags & without. Looking for Best Offer.  
(734) 697-2705 6/05

DOCK on BELLEVILLE LAKE.  
24' Holiday Dock System. (3) 3'x8'  
Sections/Newly replaced wood surfac-  
es. (6) Poles/Augers - All corresponding  
connectors, Stabilizers & Hardware. \$300  
(734) 697-9572 5/22

## VEHICLE FOR SALE

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions  
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!  
(734) 282-1700 TFN

1985 GM BLUEBIRD SCHOOL  
BUS, Runs Good, 81,000 miles  
(734) 740-8761 5/08

1986 PONTIAC FIERO SE. Black,  
5 speed, Rims & Aftermarket Stereo.  
\$1,600 (734) 796-4276 5/22

2013 F-150 SUPERCREW Running  
Boards. Never saw winter. Ford Badged,  
very clean. Chrome w/ hardware \$250  
(734) 699-3420 5/15

1997 CHEVY BLAZER 2 door truck.  
188,000 miles, Runs good, Little rust.  
\$700 obo (734) 673-4632 5/22

## MOBILE HOME FOR SALE

MANUFACTURED Home. Belleville  
Manor. 183 Ponderosa Trail S. 1974  
Westbrook, 2 BR.. Non smoker. Solid  
wood floors, all appliances, Large deck w/  
awning, lg. shed and fenced yard. \$3,000  
(734) 732-2038 5/15

## WANTED

WANTED - ANY SIZE MEN'S JEANS  
for the homeless. Please drop off at  
Bladez's 601 E. Huron River Drive.  
(734) 697-5600 TFN

WANTED - SMALL CONTAINERS  
of Shampoo, Toothpaste, etc. to take  
to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at  
Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr.  
(734) 697-5600 TFN

## WANTED

**WE BUY**  
**JUNK CARS**  
**7 Days A Week For**  
**\$300 & Up!**  
**Cash Paid!**  
**(734) 787-1444**

**WANTED:**  
**JUNK CARS**  
**Running or Not. Top \$**  
**Paid. Call For Free**  
**Pickup. Drive In For**  
**Extra Dollars.**  
**734-282-1700**

WANTED - WORK - Asking \$10/hr.  
taking you to Doctors, Shopping,  
Cleaning, Gardening, etc. Belleville  
Area. (734) 697-7506 5/15

WANTED - 14' to 20' SAILBOAT w/ or  
w/o Trailer. (734) 680-9166 5/08

WANTED - Young Person for light  
work on lawn inside city limits.  
(734) 699-4563 5/15

## FREE

LOUIS KOVACH BEMIS RD.  
You've won a dozen free roses. Pick  
them up at Main St. Flower's down-  
town, Belleville. (734) 697-7400 or  
www.mainstreetflowersbelleville.com TFN

## BUILDING FOR SALE

2 BLDG. PKG. with 4752 sq.ft. on  
busy Main St. \$279,900 Please Call  
(734) 484-3300 5/22

## FOR RENT

BELLEVILLE - Haggerty Rd./I-94.  
Clean 3 BR., 1 Bath, Finished base-  
ment, Appliances. No Smokers/Pets.  
(734) 699-2015 5/08

2 BR. APT. \$700/mo. or \$650/mo.  
w/ \$650 security. Heat included. No lease  
or credit check. Available Immediately.  
(734) 844-8241 5/08

"The world is a dangerous place to live;  
not because of the people who are evil,  
but because of the people who don't do  
anything about it."  
- Albert Einstein

## SERVICES

**Take Advantage Of Early Bird Rates!**

Call **FIRST CLASS LANDSCAPING**

(734) 699-4711

**FREE ESTIMATES!!!**

**YEAR ROUND SERVICES**

**Weekly Mowing, Aerations,  
De-Thatching, Seed & Sod,  
Tree, Bush & Stump Removal  
And Much More!**

www.FIRSTCLASSLANDSCAPING.net

## A&L SERVICES

**Home Improvement &  
Handyman Service**

**Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,  
Electrical, Plumbing,**

**Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.**

**Serving Belleville Since  
1995. Call Aaron Schultz  
@ 734-740-0628**

LOCAL HANDYMAN - SOME Jobs  
too LARGE - NO JOB too SMALL.  
Residential Power Washing.  
LICENSED & REFERENCES.  
(734) 765-9224 TFN

C.T.S. AUTO Engines, Transmissions  
Discount Prices - Guaranteed!  
(734) 282-1700 TFN

MURRAY'S GENERAL SERVICES  
Commercial & Residential Lawn Care.  
Licensed & Insured. Hauling.  
(734) 325-6062 5/15

MD APPLIANCE SERVICE  
Refrigerators, "Washers, Dryers, Ranges,  
\$20 House Call (734) 782-3354 8/28

## PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is  
subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it  
illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation  
or discrimination based on race, color, religion,  
sex, handicap, familial status or national origin,  
or an intention, to make any such preference,  
limitation or discrimination." Familial status  
includes children under the age of 18 living with  
parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and  
people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any  
advertising for real estate which is in violation  
of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that  
all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are  
available on an equal opportunity basis. To  
complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free  
at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone  
number for the hearing impaired is  
1-800-927-9275.







## Enroll in Our Summer Program



## Belleville Child Care

For children ages 2½ to 12 years.

### We offer:

- Pre-School
- Experienced Staff
- Open Mon.-Fri - 6am - 6pm

37 Years Experience & Qualified Teachers.

**734-697-4523**

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Belleville, Michigan 48111

## COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL CLEANING

*A Lil Touch*



**of Heaven**  
**Maid Service**

**(734) 740-6858**

**CHRISTIAN OWNED & OPERATED**

**20% OFF ALL SERVICES**

- Spring Cleaning
- Move Ins • Move Outs
- Post Construction
- Weekly • Bi-Weekly • Monthly
- Bona® Wood Floor Cleaning
- Licensed & Insured • Bonded
- Straight A's on Angie's List™

**FREE ESTIMATES**

## Birthdays

April 29 – Barbara Rogalle Miller  
April 30 – Glenn Silvenis  
May 1 – Kayle McArthur  
May 6 – James Demond  
May 11 -- Ron Fiddy Pyzik  
May 12 – Jean Pierie  
May 19 – James Otzman  
May 27 – Marion Reynolds

Do you have a birthday in May? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

## Pet of the Week

Friends of Michigan  
Animals Rescue

**“CHEVY”**



Our **Chevy** is built strong so he can play all day long! **Chevy** is a 1 year and 10 month old Australian Cattle dog mix with a friendly and fun personality and a slight obsession with playing fetch. There is nothing better in **Chevy's** book then repeatedly running after a slobbery tennis ball so we highly suggest his fur-ever family might want to invest in an automatic ball thrower to keep him happy. Along with fetch, this high-energy boy will need daily long-walks and mental stimuli to meet his activity needs and keep any naughty behaviors from surfacing. His excited greetings filled with happy tail wags and puppy-like enthusiasm will be a delightful addition to any family ready to include a very active pup into their lives. His adorable face always looks as if he's asking you if you're ready to play and together with his muscular physique and speckled multi-colored coat make him a very good-looking pup. Go ahead and stock up on the tennis balls and then call today to meet **Chevy**. He's neutered, vaccinated and micro-chipped. Call Friends of Michigan Animals Rescue at **734-461-9458** or visit our website **fmar1.org** for more info.

**Retirement Party for Chief Gene Taylor**  
**Friday, May 16**  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner served at 7 p.m.  
At  
**BYC Hall**  
831 E. Huron River Dr.  
(Former Moose Lodge)  
**Cost: \$20** (Purchase tickets in advance before May 11)  
Cash bar  
For tickets and any information pertaining to the event contact Sue Moore, Tina McGlynn, or Carol Smith at **(734) 699-2710**.

## KODIAK TREE SERVICE

**50% SPRING DISCOUNT IF YOU KEEP WOOD/ BRUSH! COMPLETE REMOVAL AVAILABLE!**

- Storm Clean Up
- Free Estimates
- Tree Topping & Trimming
- Tree & Shrub Removal
- Stump Removal • Bucket Service

**Insured & Senior Discounts**

**CALL FOR A PROMPT FREE ESTIMATE**

**(734) 340-6155**  
or **(734) 485-WOOD (9663)**



9624 Belleville Road, Belleville, MI

**734-697-1000**

Hours: Monday - Saturday 6am - 10pm • Sunday 7am - 9pm

**Every Wednesday All Day!**

Small Greek Salad with a Cup of Soup Only  
**\$5.99**  
*No Coupon Needed!*

**99¢**

**CONEYS**  
**EVERY MONDAY**



**BREAKFAST SERVED ALL DAY!**



**We Have A Clown**  
Every Monday 6-8pm  
Bring Your Kids for Face Painting and Free Balloon Fun!

**SEAFOOD SPECIALS**  
Every Wednesday & Friday  
**ALL YOU CAN EAT FISH \$8.99**



**Every Thursday All Day!**

Gyro or Chicken Gyro with fries Only **\$5.99**  
*No Coupon Needed!*

**www.leosconeyisland.com**



**Monday - Friday Breakfast Specials**  
6am - 11am  
Starting at only **\$1.99**  
*No Coupon Needed!*

**FISH & CHIPS EVERY FRIDAY**



**No Coupons Necessary! Everyday Breakfast Specials**

- Leo's Skillets
  - Western Skillets
  - All Meat Skillets
  - Hamburger Skillets
  - Philly Skillets
  - Chicken Skillets
  - Coney Island Skillets
  - Country Skillets
  - Veggie Skillets
- Create Your Own Skillets  
**All for \$7.99 each!**

**Every Wednesday & Friday**

- All You Can Eat Fish -- \$8.99
- Fish Sandwich, Fries & Pop -- \$7.99
- 21 Shrimp Basket, Fries & Pop -- \$7.99
- Tuna Wrap, Fries & Pop -- \$7.99
- Tuna Melt, Fries & Pop -- \$7.99
- Lake Perch, Fries & Pop 2pc -- \$6.99
- Lake Perch, Fries & Pop 3pc -- \$7.99
- Lake Perch, Fries & Pop 4pc -- \$8.99



# RAC THE RAC'S SUMMERSHIP



Spend your summer vacation at the RAC!  
Fun For The Whole Family

Up To An  
Additional  
Month Free!

	Individual	Family
Resident	\$120	\$200
Non Resident	\$150	\$250

Promotion Begins May 1st - Membership Expires On Labor Day

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## 2014 FOCUS SE

24 month lease for  
**\$135/mo.\***  
UP TO \$3,500 IN REBATES.  
BUY FOR \$14,843



## 2014 FUSION SE

24 month lease for  
**\$156/mo.\***  
UP TO \$3,500 IN REBATES.  
BUY FOR \$18,594

**SPECTACULAR  
SPRING SAVINGS!**  
**ON YOUR NEXT VEHICLE  
LEASE OR PURCHASE!**



Go Further

ATCHINSON FORD HAS BEEN AWARDED THE  
PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM FORD MOTOR  
COMPANY! IT'S THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENT  
WE CAN RECEIVE IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION!



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24 month lease for  
**\$231/mo.\***  
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## 2014 ESCAPE SE

24 month lease for  
**\$156/mo.\***  
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## 2014 F-150 SUPER CREW XLT 4X4



V-8, Leather  
24 month lease for  
**\$264/mo.\***  
UP TO \$5,750 IN REBATES.  
BUY FOR AS LOW AS \$33,738

## USED CAR SPECIAL



## 2013 FORD E-350 XLT

12 Passenger, V8  
**ONLY \$18,999**



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